

Denise Howard has been with Children First (Oklahoma's Nurse Family Partnership program) for 12 years. She has the gift of being able to develop a rapport with families that empowers them to ask questions, be involved and use resources. She has been helping families create safe, healthy, nurturing environments for their children for over a decade and now has families stopping by to show her how their child has grown and developed. Families Denise has worked with feel supported and know they have a solid connection where they can get resources and information even after they've aged out of the program. Denise's easy demeanor puts families at ease so that she can engage them in the home visit process. She focuses on the families' needs with extraordinary fidelity, professionalism and respect. She collaborates with other professionals, when appropriate, to provide the best possible services; for example, she attends the community staffing with OK Systems of Care as needed to connect with appropriate community resources and problem solve on a family's behalf. Denise truly cares about the families with whom she works and they can feel it. Denise exemplifies the high standard for which other home visiting nurses could aim; she is the epitome of what we all hope for in a nurse.

